LEONARDTOWN, MD – Today, Congressman Steny H. Hoyer (MD-5) hosted a reception to honor the participants of the 2012 Fifth District Congressional Art Competition, an annual contest that gives students a chance to have their artwork displayed in the U.S. Capitol for one year.

"The annual Fifth District Congressional Art Competition is a wonderful opportunity to highlight the exceptional talent of Fifth District students," **stated**

Congressman Hoyer. "Each and every participant submitted outstanding artwork, and I'm pleased to see the dedication and creativity that went into each piece."

"Throughout my career, I've been a strong advocate for the arts in our communities, especially in our schools as they serve a critical role in the learning and development of our students," **continued Congressman Hoyer**. "I'd like to thank the selection panel for reviewing the artwork submitted, and congratulate this year's winner Victoria Wolf on her artwork that will represent the Fifth District in the Capitol this year."

Earlier this year, Congressman Hoyer sent letters to all of the high schools throughout the Fifth District announcing the Congressional Art Competition and outlining the rules for artwork submission. A selection panel comprised of members of the Fifth District arts community – including art teachers and professional artists – reviewed each submission before selecting artwork by Victoria Wolf of Calvert High School in Prince Frederick to represent the Fifth District. Victoria's

artwork, entitled "In the Hands of Liberty," will be on view in the Capitol for one year along with the winning entries of Congressional Art Competition contests from districts throughout the country.